Testimony of

Julia Tackett

Deep River Educator

Before the

Education Committee

Re:

HB 5286: AN ACT CONCERNING THE DEVELOPMENT OF A NEW PRESERVICE PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT FOR TEACHER PREPARATION PROGRAMS.

March 4, 2022

Good morning, Senator McCrory, Representative Sanchez, Senator Berthel, Representative McCarty, and members of the Education Committee.

I testify today in support of House Bill 5286 and the elimination of the statewide implementation of the preservice performance assessment, edTPA.

I completed EDtpa in the spring of 2018 which was the first year, but a test year so my scores didn't technically count. I spent countless hours in the library writing and rewriting the same things because the required pieces of EDtpa were so incredibly repetitive. The many lessons plan I had to write were in depth unnecessarily and I have never had to write a lesson plan like that ever since. Some of the questions did not even feel necessary to answer based on previous questions. It felt like most of it was not useful for me as a soon to be new teacher. The portfolio I completed for my college separate from EDtpa provided me with more thought provoking questions and prompts. My EDtpa portfolio just created so much additional work that seemed repetitive and pointless, making it feel even less useful in the larger scheme of my teaching career. I feel for teachers who are given EDtpa scores that then prevent them from teaching because it is not an accurate or realistic portfolio for what they are capable of. This portfolio needs to be replaced with an actual portfolio that includes lesson plans that are realistic, a teaching philosophy, resume, and student samples. Additionally, recording lessons specially for EDtpa created the added burden of watching and rewatching hours of teaching footage to simply find a 3 minute clip that related to the topic you were writing about.

Thank you for addressing these critical issues impacting our students, our educators, and our school communities.